

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method (300) and system for scheduling execution
of activities, such as jobs of a batch processing. An
estimated duration of each job is predicted (365-367) as
a running average of the measured durations of completed
instances of the job executed previously. The method of
the invention uses historical data to identify (375-385)
repeatable patterns for the job duration; for example, a
10 decision tree is inducted using the completed instances
of the job as training examples. The decision tree is
applied for classifying (325) each new instance of the
job to be executed, according to its planned time of
execution; the estimated duration of the job is revised
15 (330) using an adjustment factor associated with the
class assigned to the new instance of the job.